

# Detective Tells Story of Fatal Matewan Riot

Admits He Became Excited, Shot at Miner, Then Flew After 7 Comrades and 3 Townspeople Lay Dead

First Witness at Trial

Declares Mayor Protested Actions of Police Leader Before He Was Killed

WILLIAMSON, W. Va., Feb. 12.—John McDowell, one of the Baldwin-Felts detectives who fought with the citizens of Matewan last May 19, testified today that, on that day, with rifles and pistols popping on every side, he had become excited and confused and had fired three shots at Reece Chambers, one of the defendants, and then fled from the scene where seven of his comrades and three of the townspeople lay dead in the village street.

McDowell, who was the first witness called at the trial of nineteen Matewan men indicted in connection with the death of Albert C. Felts, leader of the detectives, told his story to the jury and a crowded court room. He was followed on the stand by two telephone operators, May Chafin, 17 years old, a niece of Reece Chambers, and Elsie Chambers, his daughter.

McDowell said he had come with the other detectives to evict from houses owned by the Stone Mountain Coal Company at Matewan a number of miners and their families. He could not recall the exact number and although pressed on cross-examination, did not give the number of women and children turned into the streets.

See Mayor and Hatfield

While the evictions were in progress, McDowell recalled that Albert Felts had seen C. C. Testerman, Mayor of the town, and Sid Hatfield, the Chief of Police, accompanied by a party of men coming their way. Felts, the witness testified, ordered some of the men to get their guns and they did. The Mayor protested to Felts who answered that he had ample authority for what he was doing. To which Testerman replied: "Well, you don't pull anything like that and get away with it down here."

Later in the day when the evictions were over and the men were preparing to leave Matewan, Hatfield told Felts that warrants for their arrest had been sworn out in Williamson and were coming on the next train.

McDowell was not clear as to how the shooting started or who fired the first shot but he said that while the Baldwin-Felts men were going to the railroad station they passed a hardware store about the door of which some fifteen men had gathered.

The first shot was fired from the doorway of the store, McDowell testified. At that time he said he was standing in front of the station and ran to the shelter of a telephone pole. He said that firing was going on all around him but the only man he saw shooting was Reece Chambers. McDowell, according to his testimony, fired three shots at Chambers and then made his way to Tug River, on the edge of the town, and crossed over into Kentucky. Fully 100 shots were fired, he said, in the fight.

Miss Chafin was on duty in the Matewan telephone exchange as operator that day, she testified. She

heard Sid Hatfield call Tony Webb, who was then chief deputy for Sheriff G. T. Blankenship, and asked him when warrants could be obtained for the arrest of the Baldwin-Felts detectives. She further testified that after Hatfield told Webb "we'll kill the fellows before they get out of Matewan," the next witness, Miss Chambers, testified to substantially the same thing.

## Mexico to Consider Bill To Protect Native Labor

Advent of Many Americans Causes Alarm; Proposed Law Modeled on Ones in U. S.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 12.—Solution of present labor problems growing out of the influx of foreign workmen and the consequent throwing of many natives out of employment will be sought in a bill to be sent to Congress within a few days. Rafael Zubaran Capmany, Minister of Industry and Commerce, declared yesterday the proposed law was being modeled largely after similar laws in the United States. He said it would aim at protecting native labor, which in many districts, notably at Tampico, is said to be suffering because of the advent of many Americans.

The bill, he said, would require that in some cases companies employ from 75 to 80 per cent native labor.

Discussion of proposed petroleum legislation may be delayed in the Mexican Congress owing to opposition to bills governing banking activities, which will be submitted to Congress on Monday. Provisions of the banking law have been discussed by members of Congress formally, and the committee in charge of the projected measure is so divided in its support of the administration's plans that a lively fight is predicted.

# Snappy Dresser Now the Goat; Jazz All Out of Summer Coat

Form-Fitting Garb and Swagger Belt No More Will Make Young Beaus Look Svelte; Doomed Also Is Hip Pocket Bag, Snug Hiding Place of Volstead Swig

A sad and quite disastrous blow awaits the trim, athletic beaus who charm the fairer sex. For soon their swank will disappear, the strut and pose they hold so dear and woman-kind respects. It's not the steady hand of fate directed at the fashion plate that brings about this end. It's ordered by the cutters brave, who swing their shears and toll and slave the dresser to befriend.

They've ruled that men of younger age, who've made the pinch back coat the rage, must change their dashing style. No longer shall the form-fit coat, with flaring skirt, on which they dote enhance their beaming smile. For now the cutters' sad decree provides that all young men move free, unhampered by a belt. The lizard of the lounge will weep and moan and lose a lot of sleep when he's no longer svelte.

They've even changed the button rule in this advanced sartorial school and that's a further bore; for where a single-buttoned sack has been de-

clered the proper knack, there must be two or more. And slashed are cuffs on loose-clung sleeves, another jolt at which he grieves in following the crowd. The only surcease in his sad and mournful lot is to be had by wearing clothing loud.

'Cause this will be quite in the way, to play all colors bright and gay, in stripe or checkered tones. So youth will find the same old way to keep from being called passé, no matter how he moans. Instead of blue or gray or brown, at gay affairs in this man's town there'll be another tale. The stripes of gorgeous hues serene will vie with checks of red and green, while tailors get the kale.

There's yet again another gink—the man who likes his little drink—who's hit by style decrees. The cutters have kept pace with time and handed him an awful time; disaster now he sees. The Volstead act has led this band to feel the old hip pocket grand no longer need be big, and to this end they've cut its size so small it can't hold Scotch or rye. How can a drinker swig?

All these sad things and some of joy will greet the classy dressing boy, if he but cares to go and see them pass upon review on March the one or March the two, as manly forms they grace. The New York Custom Cutters' Club will display clothes for beau and dub; the Commodore's the place.

# Writer of Suicide Note Clears Self In Death Mystery

Camden Man Freed After He Denies Knowing How Letter Reached Wilmington, Where Body Was Found

CAMDEN, N. J., Feb. 12.—William F. Walker, who was arrested here yesterday at the home of his sixteen-year-old bride to await the instructions of the police of Wilmington, Del., where a suicide note written by Walker was found at the same time that the body of a man who had been shot

through the head, was discovered, was released from custody today upon the arrival of detectives from Wilmington. Walker admitted writing the note, but said he dropped it fifty miles from Wilmington. As to the man found dead in the park, who was thought at first to be Walker and since then has been identified both as Charles Smith, of Wilmington, and George Rigley, of Philadelphia, Walker said he knew nothing whatever. However, he agreed to accompany the Wilmington detectives to that city and do what he could to help them solve the mystery.

Walker had left his home here, he said, because he thought his wife had left him. By the time he reached Elsmore, Del., about fifty miles from Wilmington, he was so despondent that he resolved to end his life. With that resolution in his mind, he said, he wrote the note to his wife and left it on a doorstep in Elsmore.

How the note got to Wilmington he had no idea. He himself, he said, got on a train bound for Baltimore, in-

tending to jump into the Susquehanna when the train crossed that river. Before the train reached the bridge, however, he had changed his mind and decided not to commit suicide at all.

Later he learned that his note had been found in Wilmington at the same time that the body of a man, who was supposed to have committed suicide, was discovered in Brandywine Springs Park in that city. Walker then decided to come home and see if his wife really had left him. He found that she had not. He had been at her home for twenty-four hours before her mother informed the police of his presence.

## Florida Mob Hangs Negro

OCALA, Fla., Feb. 12.—A mob broke into the county jail here to-night and, seizing a negro who had been arrested on a charge of assaulting an aged white woman, took him to the scene of the alleged crime and hanged him. Before being strung up he was identified by the woman as her assailant.

West 42nd Street and West 43rd Street

# Stern Brothers

Business Hours: 9 A. M. until 5.30 P. M.

ANNOUNCING for MONDAY:\*

An Advance Spring Exposition of the Authoritative New Modes in

## Women's Distinctive Frocks

Reflecting in versatile array the ultra smart ideas of fashion's foremost style artistes, this display will prove of especial interest to women who would be correctly attired.

In addition to the above display we will offer a Special Collection of New Models in

## Women's CANTON CREPE DRESSES

at the Most Exceptional Price of

### \$37.50

Excellent quality Canton Crepes, developed in modes of marked individuality.

An Additional Special Purchase

Enables us to repeat for Monday our recent offering of

## Women's Tweed and Fancy Mixture Suits

Smartly tailored models developed principally in Imported Fabrics.

PHENOMENALLY LOW PRICED at

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Plain notch or convertible collar effects. Some Skirts are box pleated. Silk lined throughout; sizes 34 to 44.

A wide range of colors

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OUR ENTIRE REMAINING STOCK of WOMEN'S

## Fur-Collared Wraps

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High-Grade Winter Wraps at such liberal savings as ensure immediate disposal

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(Regularly up to \$75)

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(Regularly \$125.00)

Suedine or Nanette models; large, luxurious fur collars of Taupe Nutria or Australian Opossum; others with braided self collars. Silk lined and interlined.

Soft Veldyne or Orlando Wraps; handsome fur collars of Natural Squirrel, Beaver or Scotch Mole—beautifully tailored and finished. Silk lined and interlined.

All Sizes

An Advance Springtime Display of

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## Misses' Daytime Frocks

Featuring soft Chiffon Taffetas and fine Navy Blue Tricotines in two special groups at

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Exclusive, youthfully fashioned Frocks in modes particularly becoming to the young Miss. Skirts enhanced with beautiful Silk Embroidery, others with Satin Underskirts in contrasting colors; wide girdle sashes.

Sizes 14, 16 and 18 years

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## Sale of French Glace Gloves

5-Button Length. Biarritz style. Sac wrist. White, Pongee, Cream.

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Women's (Imported) Strap Wrist

## GLACE GLOVES

### \$2.75

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White and Colors.

Extraordinary Offering for To-morrow:

Over 15,000 Yards

## CREPE GEORGETTE

The quality is exceptionally good. Excellent weight.

40 inches wide 

### \$1.10

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Heretofore our regular price for this quality: 

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A complete assortment of medium and dark colors, including liberal quantities of Evening shades.

Grey, Navy Blue, Brown and Black.

The SILK DEPARTMENT - - SECOND FLOOR

## HATHAWAY'S FEBRUARY SALE OF FURNITURE

PRICES for this sale are doubly reduced. In themselves the revisions are fully as extreme as in previous sales. And this time they are applied to a new and distinctly lower scale of regular prices which was put in effect only last month.

There have been no such prices for years past. Neither is there a prospect that they can be repeated in the near future. The following examples suggest what you will find in every part of every floor:

Enamel and Decorated Bedroom Suite—8 pieces	\$1250.00	\$900.00
Two-tone Walnut Bedroom Suite—8 pieces	1375.00	1050.00
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American Walnut Bedroom Suite—8 pieces	960.00	685.00
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